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For Immediate Release

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## **SVSU awards Sen. Goschka honorary doctorate** *More than 800 Saginaw Valley students graduate*

**LANSING** — Senator Mike Goschka (R-Brant) was awarded an honorary doctorate of laws degree by Saginaw Valley State University at its commencement ceremony Saturday where he delivered the keynote address.

“It was an honor to receive this degree from such an esteemed institution and a joy to speak before the largest graduating class SVSU has yet seen,” Goschka said. “As I serve my final year in the Legislature, I’m proud to see the results of the commitment my colleagues and I have made to support SVSU and higher education throughout our state.”

Goschka chairs the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education. As chairman, he has worked to keep tuition low so that more students have the opportunity to advance their education and careers. In an effort to establish greater funding parity among all 15 public universities, he worked to give SVSU and other lower-funded schools per student their fair share of state funding.

According to the university, the SVSU board commended Goschka when it approved the honorary degree for his years of public service and support of public higher education as well as his involvement in charitable groups such as the Saginaw City Rescue Mission and the Child Abuse and Neglect Council.

Goschka spoke before an estimated 700 graduates who took part in the commencement ceremony. The university said 629 students were expected to receive bachelor’s degrees and 252 were expected to receive master’s degrees. It was a particularly wonderful day in the Goschka household as Maryann, the senator’s wife, graduated from the College of Education with a master’s degree in early childhood education.

Before winning the election to the Michigan Senate in 1998, Goschka served three terms in the state House of Representatives. He represents residents of Saginaw and Gratiot counties. Due to term limits, Goschka is unable to seek re-election.